

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01666 021832Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 OMB-01
TRSE-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 /049 W
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P R 021728Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0380
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL MUNICH

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USIA FOR IEU/MCLAUGHIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SPON, PO, US
SUBJ: BIB/RFE: CONTRACT PRESS COVERAGE

1. "O DIA," CENTER RIGHT DAILY, ON MARCH 2 CARRIED FOLLOWING
ITEM UNDER LEADLINE "TOLERANCE OF AMERICAN RADIO STATIONS IN
PORTUGUESE TERRITORY FACILITATED THE AMERICAN LOAN." ITEM
IS REPORTED TO BE REPRINTED FROM MADRID DAILY "INFORMACIONES"
OF 28 FEB.

2. BEGIN TEXT:
UNDER THE HEADLINE "PORTUGAL GETS SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS FROM
RADIO FREE EUROPE" MADRID DAILY INFORMACIONES 28 FEB., IN
ARTICLE BY ITS NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT ASSURES "THAT THE
UTILIZATION OF PORTUGUESE RADIO STATION FACILITIES IN THE
VILA FRANCA ZONE FOR USE BY RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO
LIBERTY PROBABLY AIDED (GETTING) THE LOAN OF 1500 MILLION
DOLLARS THROUGH AN INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF WHICH THE
USA IS A MAJOR PART."

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INFORMACIONES CORRESPONDENT STATES THAT THE EXTENSION
OF THE CONTRACT--FOR 15 YEARS--WAS ARRANGED BY THE
PRESENT (PORTUGUESE) GOVERNMENT "WITH CONSIDERABLE
DISCRETION" SUGGESTING THAT THE PUBLICATION OF THE
NEWS IN PORTUGAL WAS HIDDEN ON THE INSIDE PAGE OF
SOME NEWSPAPERS. "THE GOVERNMENT," ACCORDING TO THE
INFORMACIONES NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT, "DID NOT WANT TO

MAKE THE NEWS PUBLIC FOR FEAR OF AROUSING THE PORTUGUESE LEFT, AND THEREFORE DID NOT EMIT ANY OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ON THE MATTER."

THE INFORMACIONES WRITER SUBSTANTIATED HIS STATEMENTS BY QUOTING "A DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICIAL" AND, CITING THE LATTER'S WORDS, CONCLUDED THAT SUCH A CONTRACT IS PROOF THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT FEELS SECURE OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS IT MAINTAINS WITH THE UNITED STATES. SUCH SECURITY WOULD COME FROM THE PRICE PAID BY THE AMERICANS FOR THEIR RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT -- ABOUT 8,000 CONTOS (\$200,000) PER YEAR AND 140,000 CONTOS (APPROX. \$3,620,000) IN SALARIES TO THE PORTUGUESE WORKERS WHO OPERATE THOSE STATIONS. "IN THIS WAY," THE MADRID CORRESPONDENT ADDS, "THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT CAN TURN A DEAF EAR TO SOVIET ALLEGATIONS THAT THOSE STATIONS BACKED BY AMERICAN MONEY VIOLATE THE HELSINKI ACCORDS. END TEXT.

3. FOR MADRID: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ALERTING US TO ANY ITEMS YOU SPOT RE THE ABOVE CONTRACT RENEWAL. OKUN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 2941788
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIB/RFE: CONTRACT PRESS COVERAGE
TAGS: SOPN, PO, US
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